

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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WORKSHOPS PROMISE INVIGORATING DISCUSSION AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

INDIANAPOLIS—A national conference exploring ways of reducing incarceration of African-Americans while providing greater educational opportunities will feature numerous workshops that will give participants a hands-on experience at developing solutions to the societal plight of African-American men.

The Seventh African-American Male National Conference (AAMNC) will be held in Indianapolis Oct. 26-28. The conference theme is "Education vs. Incarceration."

"We have some dynamic speakers," said State Rep. Vernon G. Smith (D-Gary, IN), who is the chairman of the AAMNC. "Equally as important are the workshops that bring together experts from a wide variety of fields. They give those attending the conference a chance to participate in the formulation of ideas for future policies affecting African-American men who face incredible challenges on a daily basis.

"In the many years I have been involved with the conferences," continued Dr. Smith, "several of the ideas that germinated during these workshop discussions have become legislation in our state capitols and policy throughout the country. The work done during this conference will have an impact for generations to come."

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The following are among the topics that will be explored during the 20 workshops:

- **After Care for IN through Mentoring** - Carlette Duffy of AIM - Thursday & Friday
- **Organizational Structure: Best Practices for Local Commissions** - Bloomington Commission - Thursday
- **Student African-American Brotherhood** - Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe of SSAB Program & Terrance Littlefield of IUPUI - Thursday & Friday
- **A Survival Curriculum for African-American Males** - "Dare to be King" Urban Leadership Institute in Baltimore, Maryland - Thursday & Friday
- **Preparing Offenders for Community Re-entry** - Charles Stuart of National Incarcerated Parents/Family Network - Thursday
- **Educational Choices and Options** - Steve Jackson, GEO Foundation - Thursday & Friday
- **The Importance of Education** - American College Board - Thursday
- **Iowa Commission on the Social Status of African-Americans** - Friday
- **Mentoring to Children of Incarcerated Fathers** - Charles Stuart of National Incarcerated Parents/Family Network - Friday
- **Breaking the Cycle, New Life, New Attitude** - Ken Johnson, KJ Enterprises, Inc. - Friday

Advance registration, until Oct. 20, is \$100 per person for one day and \$125 per person for the whole conference. After the deadline, registration goes up \$25 for both options. Lunches and dinner are included in the registration costs.

Student registration is \$25 per person until Oct. 20. After that date the cost increases to \$35. Special rates are available for chaperones.

Separate tickets are available for the lunches and dinner. Lunches cost \$25 and dinner tickets are \$50. Dinner tables, seating eight, are available for \$350.

For more information, to register or to purchase lunch and dinner tickets, contact ICSSBM Deputy Director Steven Ingram at steven.ingram@fssa.in.gov or telephone him at 317-233-8849.

One also can register on-line at www.in.gov/fssa/icssbm/conference. Go to the right-hand side of the page and click registration. There is also additional information about the conference and its speakers on the site as well as information about a special hotel rate for conference attendees.